

PATENT Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 3327.2303-00000

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Application of: |) |
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| Kazuhiko IRISAWA et al. |) Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| Application No.: 10/622,495 |)) Examiner: Unassigned |
| Filed: July 21, 2003 |)) |
| For: VACUUM ARC DEPOSITION APPARATUS |))) |

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application. A copy of the listed document is attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form. English abstract of the non-English document is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited

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Serial No.: 10/622,495

Information Disclosure Statement

Attorney Docket No.: 03327.2303-00000

document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should this document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 18, 2003

Douglas S. Weinstein

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

| Atty. Docket No. | 03327.2303 | Appln. No. | 10/622,495 |
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| Applicant | Kazuhiko IRISAWA et al. | | |
| Filing Date | July 21, 2003 | Group: | Unassigned |

| | | U.S. PATENT | DOCUMENTS | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------|---|--------------|----------------------------|
| Examiner Initial* | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date If Appropriate |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------|-------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | Document Number | Publication Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translati n Yes or N |
| | 2002-25794 | 01/25/2002 | Japan | | | Abstract |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | |
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| Examiner | xaminer Date Considered | | | |
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| *Examiner: | | rence considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line ation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next tion to applicant. | | |
| Form PTO 144 | 9 Patent and | Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce | | |